

# ANNOTATING ART & ARTIFACTS

Art and artifacts provide a window into the distant history and culture of an ancient civilization. When annotating art, it is important to understand the artwork's defining characteristics. These characteristics may be reflected in the subject matter, use of light and color, or composition.

**Task:** Your task is to **annotate** an artwork or artifact. You will provide historical background and cultural context of the artifact or artwork in order to describe how the artifact or artwork reveals deeper insights into culture.

Each annotated artifact or artwork must include:

- ☐ Your Name
- ☐ An image and the source of the image (full URL)
- ☐ Information about the artifact or artwork (as much as is known) - can go in a text box:
  - ★ Title
  - ★ Place of origin
  - ★ Date
  - ★ Materials & dimensions (if known)
  - ★ Creator's or artist's biographical details (if known)
- ☐ Annotations should include the following (address as many of these questions as you can):
  - ★ Start with specific features and then broaden out to tell the "story" portrayed in the artwork. Identify key features of the artwork (using different colored boxes & arrows). Then discuss in a separate text box the subject of the artwork. What "story" is being told in the artwork?
  - ★ What is the story behind the artwork? What is its history, function, and/or significance? How does this object relate to a particular period, culture, or artistic movement? What did the object mean for people at the time of its creation?
  - ★ What elements of the artwork illustrate innovations in style and/or content?
- ☐ Writing is clear, succinct, and free of errors. Use correct vocabulary to demonstrate that you are developing your knowledge, understanding, and skills.
- ☐ Complete MLA citation for any sources (text or online) used.

Content of Annotation	Points
Annotations provide specific identifying details about the artwork (title, artist, date/time period, dimensions, materials).	Points: /4
Annotations provide accurate information on the key subject(s) of the artwork and/or the story being told in the artwork.	Points: /8
Annotations describe how artwork relates to a particular period (and/or describes the history, function, and/or significance of the artwork).	Points: /4
Writing is clear, succinct, and appropriately worded. Includes correct vocabulary. Annotations are free of grammar and spelling errors.	Points: /6
Includes a properly formatted list of sources (URL for images and MLA style) for any sources used.	Points: /3